THE RANGER SPIRIT

Methuen High School,
Methuen, Massachusetts

Vol. 2 No. 2 February, 1978 10¢

Largest Cast Ever In Senior Class Play

Jim Ventre

Erin Cronin

By Mark Labrecque

This year the Senior Class will present "Who's That Lady in the President's Bed" on March 16. 17, and 18 in the assembly hall.

There are 51 Seniors appearing in this year's Senior Class Play, more than ever before. However, this does not include all the people who will work backstage and on the various committees.

Erin Cronin stars as Mary, the first female President. Jim Ventre plays Steve, the President's son, with Marty Mason as the Duke, Mary Ann

continued on page 4

Junior Class Semi-Formal On March 25

by Scott DeMonaco

This year the Junior Class is sponsoring the first Junior Semi-Formal Dance. which is scheduled for March 25.

Tickets for the dance will cost $20.00 per couple. According to Miss Kathy Cook, Junior Class adviser, no one will be permitted to go stag, "because we're afraid that if kids know they can come stag, less guys will be asking girls to go."

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'78 Yearbooks Still On Sale

by Mark Labrecque

Yearbook sales have not been as high as the 1978 yearbook staff had hoped, according to yearbook adviser Robin Moody.

Approximately 340 yearbooks, at a cost of $10.00 each, have been sold to date. Mrs. Moody noted that 100 seniors have not yet purchased yearbooks. "I think that's really bad." she said. It's something for the future."

The sales objective set by Mrs. Moody and the yearbook staff is 500 copies. Last year's sale hit the 400 mark.

The main objective of the yearbook staff this year is to have a good cross-section of the school represented in the yearbook. In order to achieve this goal, candid pictures have been taken of students with different high school interests, such as work study and distributive education. More candid pictures will be taken before the close of this year, and some will have captions. One of the more exciting aspects of this year's yearbook will be the color section.

Yearbooks are still being sold. Anyone interested in purchasing a yearbook should see Mrs. Moody or any yearbook staff member.

★★★★★ Poll Results Inside! ★★★★★

Poll Results Reveal

Top Three, Spirit Need Improvement

by Becky Laverriere

Not long ago, a survey was given to students and teachers to find out what they all thought about the selecting of the honor essayist, salutatorian, and valedictorian, and questions regarding school spirit.

There were many different comments for each of the questions. The most common response, coming generally from freshmen and sophomores, was that they had no idea just what the honor essayist, salutatorian, and valedictorian are. The procedure is as follows: the top three academic achievers of the graduating class are selected for each of these positions ranging from the top in the class as valedictorian and so forth. They are selected to deliver a speech to their graduating class during graduation cerimonies. They speak about practically any topic they wish to, after deciding amongst themselves.

We asked the question because we wanted to know how the teachers and students felt about the selecting process of these positions. Over half of the answers were yes (total) - they wanted the selection process to be changed (The results appear at the end of the article). Specifically, extracurricular activities should be included when selecting the valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor essayist.

There were two questions on school spirit: 1) Do we have an adequate amount of school spirit? and 2) Has it improved since last year? Many freshmen did not answer the second question since they weren't here last year, but the majority thinks it has improved. The most common response for question # 1 and # 2 is that we have some school spirit, but not nearly as much as we should have. The following are some comments directly from the survey and the results:

FRESHMEN-*Question #2:*

"There should be an improvement on attendance at the school games."

"There should be more dances."

"There should be more activities for the whole school. People are not interested."

FRESHMEN-*Question #3:*

"Someone who stays home 24 hours a day should get it for his ability, not for his participation in other clubs."

"A person that is smart and involved in extracurricular activities like band, should be awarded more than someone without an activity."

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Spirit Better, Says Timony

by Debbie DeJonker and Diane Brooks

In a recent interview with Principal Donald Timony, he stated that school spirit has greatly improved in the year that he has been here but there are still many areas which can be improved. The problem which is being tackled now is getting the students into smaller and closer groups in which they can mutually strive for the benefit of themselves and the school as a whole.

The newest step towards the achievement of this goal was started in September when the specific sections of the high school were organized into departments.

Mr. Timony said the size of the group being organized, "can have a bearing on school spirit, and that's why we've done some of the things that we've done." He also said that the open concept doesn't have any bearing on school spirit.

The whole purpose of these moves is to give the students of Methuen High School a sense of belonging and self worth.

Concerning this, Mr. Timony said, "We think that the development and social growth during the high school years are just as important as reading, writing, and arithmetic."

Thus school dances are a part of development and social growth, and Mr. Timony said the objectives are "to provide a good, decent place for our kids to go to have a decent time. That's why we don't sell tickets at the door. We're not out to make money."

The administration is encouraging the freshmen to have a couple of dances this year because it will enable them to save $4,500 before they begin their senior year. This will enable them to have more money in preparation for their graduation and prom.

T.V. Monitors To Go In Caf

by Mark Labrecque

Plans are now being made to have one or two television monitors placed in the dining rooms for the purpose of displaying announcements. Mr. Timony and Dr. Harris, Media Coordinator for the Methuen School System, are working on the project and hope to have it completed before the end of the year. The T.V. sets would be turned on during the lunch periods.

It is also hoped that there could be a news show presented once a week. It could either be in a strictly visual form with words flashed across the screen or a presentation by a person or persons.

The show would give school news, upcoming events, sports scores and schedules, film clips of school events and functions , and generally inform the student of what's going on around the school.

Dance Company of M.H.S. Forms

Dance Club members Terri Melisi, Wendy Ledger, Erin Cronin and Cindy Salmon practice their steps.

What do Carlene Graham, Gina Bonanno, Erin Cronin and Cheri Paolino all have in common? They are all members of the newly organized "Dance Company of Methuen High." From the Latin Hustle to classical ballet, the main feature is to help those interested in the lefts and rights of the dance floor.

During their meetings on Mondays and Fridays, the student members exhibit a wide variety of dance styles and talent.

In addition to the officers, the members include good people such as: Diane Napolitano, Cindy Salmon, Pam Farley, Susan Kelley, Terry Melisi, Wendy Ledger and Ace Hatem. All are presently preparing for their upcoming debut at the first annual performance of the Dance Club's "Boogie Night" to be held on April eighth in the Assembly Hall. A variety of dance techniques from partner disco to jazz will serve to express the joy of movement associated with dance.

Under the direction of Ms. Bell, future specialties of the club will include Dance Clinics open to the public. Here you can learn all the flashy disco line and couples dances guaranteed to give you "Saturday Night Fever!"

We are looking for prospective members--teacher and student, male and female. We want to let you know that with our help---YOU WILL BE DANCING!

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BANKAMERICARD

Senior Class Play

continued from page 1

Frechette as Ann, and Mark McGreevy as Stud.

The story centers on a woman teacher who is elected president of her high school by a group of radical students. This occurence is then advertised by several stories and television appearances by Mary on her election as president of her high school.

There is an upcoming election for the President of the United States, and because of her exposure to the people, Mary is the overwhelming choice, even though she is not an official candidate. She is elected and the Duke, a famous western movie star is her vice-president.

The story continues as Mary solves the country's problems, but personal conflicts evolve.

The cost of tickets will be $2.50. There will be three different colored tickets. Each color tickets will be for only one certain night and cannot be used for any other night. Tickets are now being sold by all members of the cast. Some tickets will also be sold at the door.

Semi-Formal

continued from page 1

The dance will be held at the Pelham Inn, and an as-of-yet undecided live band will perform. Several bands are now being considered.

Miss Cook has formed a set-up committee, which meets after school on Tuesdays. The committee is still accepting new members, if any juniors are interested.

Student Senate Has Big Plans

by Louis Yarid

The Methuen High School Student Senate is planning a full schedule of student activities for the rest of the present school year.

Under the direction of President Patricia Tahan, the Senate has already sponsored many worthwhile events. They have organized the fall and winter sports rallies, brought the Dots to Methuen High School for a concert, and sponsored a mini Winter Carnival during February.

In March, the Senate plans to have a reception for all homeroom representatives.

April looks to be a busy month. At that time, a spring sports rally will be held. Student Government Day, where students assume the duties of teachers and administrators for a day, will be held on April 7th.

A jog-a-thon to benefit the Methuen Scholarship Foundation will be held in May. Last year, the Senate helped raise $1,400.00 for the foundation through its efforts in this activity.

June will once again find the various classes at Methuen High competing against each other as the third annual Ranger Week is held. During Ranger Week, each class tries to win top honors by competing in different sporting events.

The Student Senate has also been doing other things to honor and assist the students of the high school.

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Road Manager Gives Dots' History

by Linda Yarid and Diane Brooks

"The Ranger Spirit" was able to have an interview with Steve French, the road manager for the rock band The Dots. Mr. French was very helpful in answering a few basic questions about this band that came to Methuen High School on January twentieth.

The Dots, formerly Maze, originated seven years ago in the Boston area. Two years later, all but two members of the group left. All the members of the present group have been together for four years.

They started out as a garage band playing clubs and one-nighters around Boston. They stopped playing clubs three years ago, feeling it was not the way to national success so they toured the Midwest for a while where they became widely known. They chose the Midwest because it is the most concentrated rock and roll area in the country. Groups such as Aerosmith also started becoming known in the Midwest. Last year, The Dots returned to the East coast.

In February of last year, The Dots changed their name from Maze to the Dots because a California funk band calling itself Maze had already released an album. Legally, The Dots had the rights to the name; but because the record was already released, they sold the name to the other band and changed theirs to The Dots.

The Dots' style of music is a "basic, raw, primitive, hard rock." They stress vocals and are not totally reliant upon talent. They believe that a band's attitude is "the most important element to success. The right kind of person with the right kind of attitude can better himself." Their ultimate goal is to be the biggest touring rock band in the country.

Most of their music is original and written by all the members as a group effort. In their show here, all of their music was written by them except for four pieces, which they rearranged.

Their warm-up band for this show was Mad Elk. They are based in the Southshore. The Dots choose the bands they perform with by looking around and deciding which is the best one that they can afford.

The Dots will be releasing their first album in about six to eight weeks. Look for it!

Dave Kazanjian is 'Just A Runner'

by Richard Lacroix

Dave Kazanjian has been running track since he was in eighth grade. But Dave didn't begin to take running seriously until he suffered a hip injury during the spring track season of his freshman year.

"That injury caused me to go through a rough spring track," Dave said. "I was determined that summer to come back and be the number one man on the J.V. team.

"I came back and I ran two scrimmage meets--J.V. meets. I went out, and I ran really well. Mr. Fuller moved me up to varsity and I was running with (Tim) Lawton, (Mike) Janowski, (Rick) Stravinskas and (Rick) Cameron. We won the league; we won the state divisional. I started seeing good varsity competition. The running started to come along real good."

Since that time, Dave has broken records in both the mile and two-mile run, has participated in an Armenian Olympics in California and has been an outstanding member of one of the best Methuen High School track teams in history.

"Running is part of my life," Dave explains. "I take it totally serious. I like joking around and stuff, and I always do before and after practice. But when it comes down to running, I'm totally serious. I don't like any messing around. If I take a day off, it's like missing a meal."

Dave doesn't miss many meals, however. Aside from taking an occasional day off, he is usually practicing his running every day.

When he is into full training, Dave runs between seven and fourteen miles each day. He runs seven days a week and sometimes twice a day.

Dave put in 500 miles last summer and hopes to put in anywhere from 700 to 1000 miles this summer.

As far as goals are concerned, Dave said his major goal right now is getting a scholarship into college. "After that," he says, "there are goals still up there; but they're just longshots now."

Timewise, Dave has hopes of improving his times in the mile and two-mile. "Indoors," he says, "I want to get down to 4:29 in the mile and 9:30 in the two-mile. Outdoors, I don't know. Maybe 9:28. It all depends on how the goals go indoors. Right now, my main concern is working hard and hoping the team wins."

But Dave is not one who places individual achievement on a high level.

"One thing that I can't stand," Dave complains, "if it's on other teams in the league, is individual performance. Everyone's out for the glory. I don't like that either. The only way a team is going to go anywhere is competing as team.

"People say to me, 'You go out, and you try to make a name for yourself.' I don't like that. That's not the important thing. It's being a team concept. I'm highly involved with the team. I think that if it would come down to a team or an individual performance, I'd go with the team performance because that's why we're doing what we're doing."

Dave gives a great deal of credit to his coaches also. "Coaching has been the biggest aspect of my running now," he says. "I can always turn to the coaches. Whenever you need something, they're always there to help you out, even if it's not a running problem."

He also says varsity track captain Rick Cameron has been "a big help to my running." Dave says that Cameron is always there to push him.

How does Dave feel about being probably the most outstanding runner in the Merrimack Valley?

"One thing that bothers me," Dave says, "is people saying 'track star' and stuff like that. That means nothing to me, and I don't prefer it. I don't mind when they joke around, but some people really take it seriously; they call you 'celebrity' and stuff. I don't like that at all. I think that's garbage. I'm just a runner. I'm no better than anyone, no worse than anyone. I go out; I give 120 percent. That's it. I'm just a runner that puts out."

I wanted to say I Love You
But I didn't know how to tell you.
Would you have really cared?
I wanted to touch your hand
And bring you closer to be a friend.
Would you move away?
I wanted to see
The peace in your eyes
As we quietly talked.
Would you turn your head?
I wanted to say so many things to you
Before your death of yesterday.
I've always cared.
Did you mind?

by P.D.

Stat. Box

Are you one of the unique students who have all male teachers? If you take subjects in the following areas: English, Math, Social Studies, Science, Foreign Language and Physical Education, your probability of having all male teachers is approximately 14/1000. So, for every 1000 students, there should be about 14 students with all male teachers.

by Mrs. Hodge's F level Prob. and Stat. class.

EDITORIALS

Appeals Board A 'Fair' Idea

While leafing through a booklet entitled, *"Students in Decision-Making: A Guide Book,"* which is published by the Massachusetts Board of Education, there was one item which caught our eye. The idea seemed innovative, and we think its implementation at Methuen High School should be given serious thought.

The idea originated at Scituate High School, and it involves the organization of a seven member Appeals Board within the school. The board consists of three volunteer students, three volunteer teachers and one teacher selected by the Student Council who hear testimonies from students who feel that they have been treated unfairly in affairs dealing with such things as grades, rules infractions, disciplinary actions and other school situations.

An Appeals Board sounds like a favorable idea for Methuen High School. The size of the board, the selection of its members and the scope of the problems it would be willing to hear may be altered; but the basic purpose of the board would still remain.

The formation of an Appeals Board would provide an invaluable service to the student community and would display the school's interest in providing each student with a just decision. Sometimes, a student has legitimate reasons for acting in a manner which may seem to warrant disciplinary action, but these reasons are inadvertently overlooked when the dispensation of detention or suspension occurs. The Appeals Board would provide the student with an outlet, someplace where he could go to give his side of the story and have some action taken on it. In the event that the Appeals Board feels reconsideration of the matter is needed, they could contact the appropriate teacher or administrator and ask him to review the situation again, while providing him with the information which they have found. The final decision would still rest with the original disciplinarian, but the additional information could very well alter his decision.

An Appeals Board would add another giant step in the march towards total justice for everyone at Methuen High School. We urge the Student Senate and administration to consider this matter in a manner which is both appropriate and immediate, and we encourage all students to voice their opinions on the matter to their homeroom representatives and to the Student Senate.

Got an opinion? Let us know about it in a lettter to the editor.

Letters must include the author's name and homeroom, but we will refrain from publishing an author's name at his request. We reserve the right to edit all letters when necessary.

Letters may be placed in the "Ranger Spirit" mailbox in the office or may be given to Mrs. Longshore or any staff member.

Methuen Teens Unjustly Criticized

It has become a custom among the people of this area to look down upon the teenagers of Methuen. The Methuen High School student has been chosen to be the notorious type of youngster upon whom no one can depend. Unfortunately, this label has stuck because of the efforts of a certain group of individuals who have minimal knowledge of and next to no contact with Methuen High students.

Methuen teens are judged from a distance. They are seen as inferior to teens from surrounding communities. Vandalism, drinking, smoking, and unruly behavior have been trademarks of Methuen High students.

In reality, the students of Methuen High School are no more malicious, no more drunk, no more "high" and no more restless than students from Lawrence, Andover, North Andover, or any other community. Yet, people are encouraged through the press and through their peers to look upon Methuen students as troublemakers, youths who cannot do anything without starting a riot.

Teenagers attending Methuen High School are basically good. We are not trying to deny the fact that problems such as vandalism and drinking do not exist; they do. It is just that when something seemingly unfavorable occurs, someone is always there with a magnifying glass to enlarge the negative aspects of the situation. We would like to see that same lens covering some of the many good things which the teenagers of Methuen do.

Because of the Blizzard of '78, publication of the February issue of "The Ranger Spirit" was held up for approximately one week. We apologize for the delay.

THE RANGER SPIRIT

Methuen High School,
Methuen, Massachusetts

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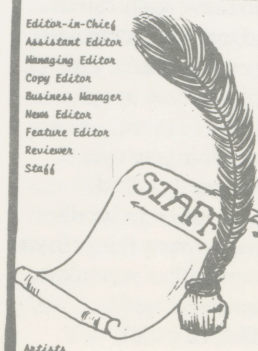

Platter Chatter

By Steve Caredeo

News of the World--Queen****

As I was listening to Queen's hot new album, I noticed two things: (1) The other members are able to show their abilities in writing and singing. That's a good sign because it shows the flexibility of the group; (2) On *A Night at the Opera* and *A Day at the Races,* there was a balanced mixture of ballads, hard rockers, and opera rock mixture. In *News of the World,* however, they turn more to doing hardrockers rather than ballads, of which there are only two in the album, *All Dead, All Dead* and *My Melancholy Blues*. They also don't do the type of rock-opera music in this album which acclaimed them one of America's favorite groups.

Best cuts: *Get Down, Make Love*. This strong rocker will possibly be the next single. *Sheer Heart Attack* shows their ability to make punk rock music. *It's Late,* which is a true solid rock song, once again proves that Queen can achieve perfection in every type of song they write. *Spread Your Wings* is also a possible single. *Fight From the Inside* and *Sleeping on the Sidewalk* exploit Deacon's and May's abilities; and, of course, *We Will Rock You/We are the Champions* is Queen's strongest song to date.

Bum Cuts: *My Melancholy Blues* is too slow, and *All Dead, All Dead* is corny and silly.

News of the World proves once again that Queen is 'king' of the rock world.

Draw the Line--Aerosmith****

The year and a half wait was worth it; Aerosmith has put together their best rock and roll masterpiece. Every cut is strong, and none of the songs on the album are lousy or put the group to shame.

This album ranks with their other four albums, which are all excellent. The outstanding cut on the album that could be the next single is *Kings and Queens*.

The other cuts on the album include the title cut, which is a true hard rocker; *Bright Light Fright,* which sounds like it was inspired by Lynard Skynard; *I Wanna Know Why,* another piece of classic rock; *Critical Mass,* which sounds almost like something Led Zepplin would do; *Get it Up,* another possible single and *Sight for Sore Eyes*, which reminds me of their classic, *Train Kept A Rollin'. The Hand That Feeds* and *Milk Cow Blues* are on the album.

Draw the Line is excellent, no doubt about it. You can cast my vote for best group for Aerosmith.

In Review

by Mike Kearny

****-EXCELLENT
***-GOOD
**-FAIR
*-POOR

Saturday Night Fever-***

An extremely weak story is saved by actor John Travolta. His character is better than anything Sylvester Stallone or Henry Winkler has given us. In this movie, there is an abundance of good dancing, good music, and sometimes an over-abundance of vulgarity. On the whole, *Saturday Night Fever* presents a realistic view of city life and the now popular disco scene.

Close Encounters of the Third Kind (no rating)

After viewing *Close Encounters* for the second time, I left the theater with an inescapable feeling of disenchantment. Although most people find this film totally involving and exciting, I find it unfortunate that the first film that deals with U.F.O.'s is handled in such a manner as Stephen Spielberg has chosen. Here is a man who seems to be obsessed with turning serious subject matter into "fun", as he did with "Jaws".

For example, in one scene, Richard Dreyfuss throws sand, bricks, and plants through his kitchen window, and he builds a huge model of a mountain, that he has envisioned, in the middle of his living room--classic Spielberg stupidity. Why not the backyard?

There are some good special effects and some good performances that are almost put to waste in this story. The last half hour is quite a technical achievement in both sight and sound, and one of the best things movies ever had to offer. So, just for this (if anything), *Close Encounters* is worthwhile and important.

Dots Concert 'Unique'

by Mark Labrecque

The Dots concert was a unique event in that Methuen High School has never seen anything like it before and probably never will again. There didn't seem to be much excitement before the concert, and there wasn't too much excitement after it either.

The group was good for the type of music that it performed. Unfortunately, I do not particularily care for this type of music. There was, however, a few bright spots when the Dots played some of the more popular songs of today instead of some unknown songs which they wrote themselves.

The warm-up group was not much better; in fact they were worse--much worse. They played an hour before the Dots came out, but it felt like forever.

Many people had mixed reactions when asked about the concert. Some felt that it was good, and some felt it wasn't. Personally, I think that the idea was good; but the turnout was poor, showing a lack of interest from the school for this type of event. Hopefully, anything resembling this in the future will turn out better for the sake of all involved.

WHY WAIT ???

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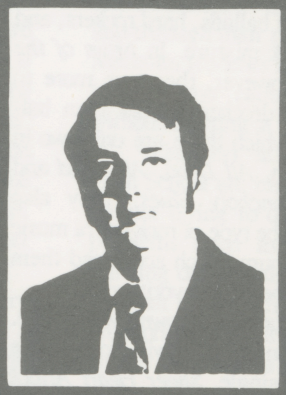

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Poll Results Show Changes Needed

continued from page 2

SOPHOMORE-*Question #2:*

"The senate has the responsibility of rallies and Ranger Week, and if they don't go well, the senate is blamed for lack of school spirit."

"No team spirit."

SOPHOMORE-*Question #3:*

"Yale is for smarties, not average students who play sports (scholarships)."

"There are a lot of people that don't have the highest marks, but have contributed a lot to the school. The person with the highest marks a lot of times does nothing for the school and just goes home and studies. What is he good for?"

JUNIORS-*Question #2:*

"Very little enthusiasm."

"Students just don't seem to care about their school."

"The principal has helped us change our attitudes--better school spirit."

JUNIORS-*Question #3:*

"Anyone can go home and spend from 2:00-10:00 studying. A well-reounded person finds time to do all."

SENIORS-*Question #2:*

"At the rallies people act like they're dead."

"I think the reason we don't have any school spirit is because people are too lazy to participate. Once school's out, they quit."

"It's pretty bad when at home games the opposing team has more people coming to see them."

SENIORS-*Question #3:*

"Although getting good marks is important in school, it is equally important to learn how to get along with people and participate in activites."

"It should be an all around student."

Another comment from a senior was that seniors should have more privileges such as coming in only when you have a class.

TEACHERS-*Question #1:*

"The upperclassmen as a whole have more school spirit."

TEACHERS-*Question #2:*

"Assemblies for school spirit should be held."

Many teachers put "slightly" for a comment.

TEACHERS-*Question #3:*

"This is an acedemic recognition, other activities have their own awards."

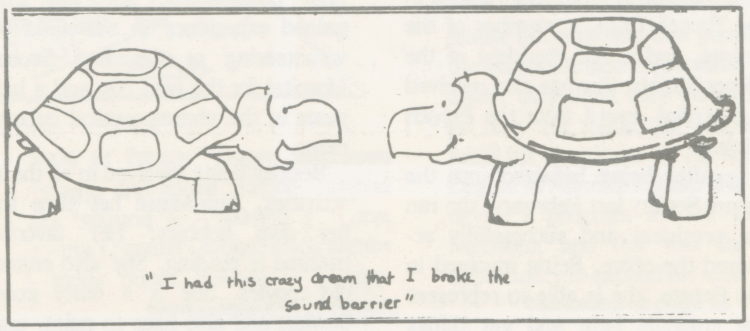
"The complete student should be honored."

"Not the number of activities, but the greatest contribution to the achievement of a goal considered."

In between mathematical equations,
biology terms
envying glances,
previous thoughts.
and stifled cries,
I see an inner vision.
Digging through days,
memories,
promises,
and wants,
I try to reach,
to catch a glimpse of myself,
but with each movement closer,
the gap widens, I delve farther,
I lose my inner vision,
and myself with it.

by Deidre Heggarty

	GROUP	Number	Yes	No	?
Do you think M.H.S. has an adequate amount of school spirit?	Teacher	35	11	23	1
	Senior	94	25	68	1
	Junior	103	39	64	
	Sophomore	105	45	60	
	Freshman	86	48	38	
	Total		168	253	
Do you think school spirit has improved since last year?	Teacher	35	120	13	2
	Senior	94	54	40	
	Junior	103	64	39	
	Sophomore	105	67	38	
	Freshmen	86	44	26	16
	Total		249	156	
Do you think extracurricular activities should be accounted for when deciding the valedictorian, salutatorian, and honor essayist of the graduating class?	Teacher	35	13	22	
	Senior	94	69	23	2
	Junior	103	71	32	
	Sophomore	105	67	35	3
	Freshmen	86	60	22	4
	Total		280	134	



Ranger Spirit **editor Richard Lacroix presents a $10.00 gift certificate from Midland Records to Ron Plouffe. Ron was chosen as the winner in Steve Caredeo's Rock 'n' Roll Trivia Quiz.**

Who Is This Teacher?

(Mr. John Moore)

Student Senate

continued from page 4

The Student of the Month awards are given to two students, one boy and one girl, who exhibit outstanding qualities in both academics and school service. The Student Advisory Council also tries to develop new ideas which will benefit the school.

The Senate encourages the student body to contribute ideas through their senators, homeroom representatives, or by presenting their views personally at a Student Senate meeting.

Ann-Maria Contarino- A Voice For The Students

by Linda Yarid

There are few students in Methuen High School who are as involved and active throughout the community and high school as is Ann-Maria Contarino.

Ann-Maria is the voice for the high school students in town and high school government. Being one of the two students elected from the Senate to be on the We Like Methuen Committee, she has the chance to express the opinions of the young people of the town. This committee tries to show the good aspects of Methuen and to show us that Methuen really is a good town.

Ann-Maria is also on the Methuen Arts Council, a newly formed group whose goal is to bring culture to Methuen by developing the talent and the ability we have here and showing it to other communities. She is able to show the town that the kids have potential and are good.

In the high school, Ann-Maria is in the French Club, a member of the Senate, and is the president of the Honor Society. She has also received the service award from the French Club.

After being inducted into the Honor Society last February, she ran for president and successfully acquired the office. Being involved in the Senate, she is able to represent the students here and get things

done. Another honor granted to her was receiving the Daughters of the American Revolution award twice.

She likes being involved and feels that it will help her in the future. Getting to know people helps in speaking to large groups.

Her plan for the future is to be a pharmacist and eventually own her own drugstore. She decided on pharmacy because she has grown up with it. Her father and her uncle are both pharmacists. She has also gained experience in this field by volunteering at the Bon Secour Hospital for the past two and a half years in the pharmaceutical department

Besides being involved in all these activities, Ann-Maria has time for her own hobbies. Her favorite pastime is reading. She also enjoys old movies. She is a fairly good bowler, and also likes to paint, and travel. Poetry and creative writing are two more of her interests.

When there is nothing much to do, she studies, which probably accounts in part for her excellent grades. And most of all, she likes to be involved, which is very evident from talking to her.

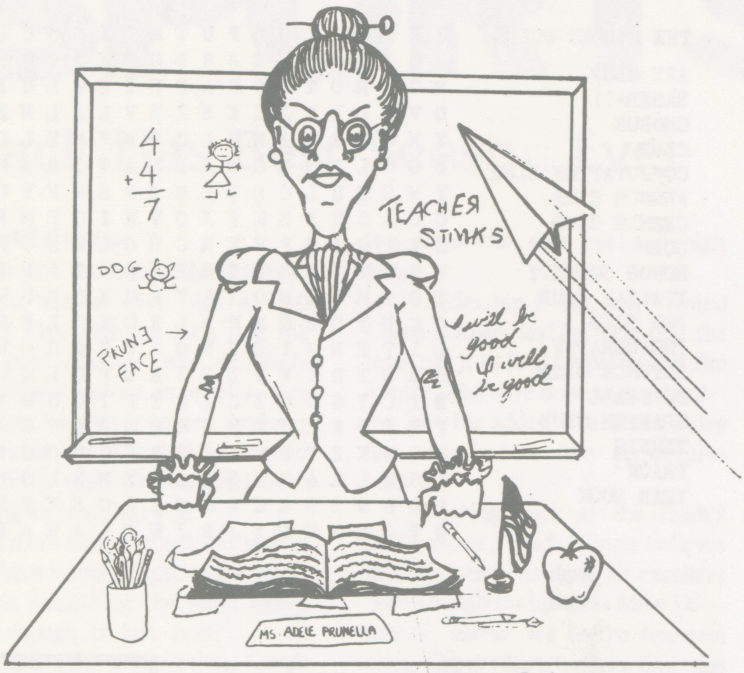
As for some of her opinions concerning Methuen High, Ann-Maria feels that the school spirit in the school has increased. She attributes this to the fact that perhaps now we are getting used to this school and are feeling more comfortable here. Since we all came here new, it took a lot of time to finally become adjusted.

As for the issue of qualities necessary to be valedictorian, she believes that it should not solely be judged by one's academic grades, but on all-around ability. Academics are very important, but the general opinion of the class toward the valedictorian should be favorable, she says.

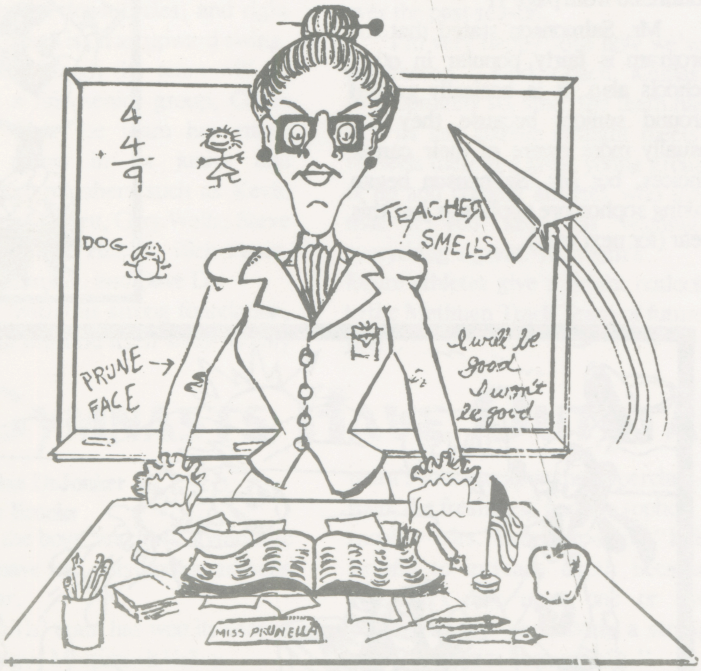
She also feels that the school newspaper should try and show all the good things being done here at M.H.S. and not try and dig up the bad.

Ann-Maria is an articulate and well-rounded student who should succeed at anything she tries. She is the type of student who sets an example for all to follow.

Double-Vision



How many differences can you find between these two pictures?
Answers are below.



Solution To Double-Vision

4&4=7 - 4&4=9, round specs - square specs, stinks - smells, I will - I won't, 3 buttons - 4 buttons, no pocket - pocket, pencil cup differs, nameplate differs, writing in book differs, plane lines differ, papers on desk differ, pencil on desk is pen, hairpin differs, chalk tray differs, drawings on blackboard differ, lettering on blackboard differs, earrings differ.

Academic Internship Helps Plan Careers

by Becky Laverriere

Many people are not aware just what the Academic Internship Program is all about. What is it? It is a program, originated by social studies teacher Larry Salmonson, who places students in various career areas to see how they do in the particular field they're interested in. It is also for students who are not sure what field they are going to enter. In order to be chosen for this program, an excellent discipline and attendance record and responsibility are manditory. Mr. Salmonson receives at least 50 applications during course selection time from seniors, juniors, and now sophmores also. However, he can only select about 25 students, after consulting teachers and guidance, and considering the three formerly mentioned requirements. Mr Salmonson said that he "discourages (students from) leaving the program early by screening them before hand."

Mr. Salmonson tested his idea in the Tenney High School with his social studies classes when he began teaching in 1974. It was not a credited course then, but when the new Methuen High School was built, in the spring of 1976 he made a proposal to the school committee to "expand the program into a full-time credited program." It is now a 3 and 4 weight course. He said, "I felt there was a need for 'real life experience' in the schools, so I started the program." He also said, "As long as students express interest in the program, I'd like to continue it." This way students can learn outside the classroom and realize the good and bad points, and the boredome and excitement of the career they think they would like to go into. He made the proposal to fulfill his practicum for his Master's Degree in Administration. (He had to devise a program for the town of Methuen, and this was the ideal opportunity to expand his idea.)

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Student Service Center Helps Provide Info

The Student Service Center is a federally funded project within the Department of Education. Located in North Andover, the Center provides information about education and the law to anyone in the Northeast region of Massachusetts. Parents, teachers students, adminstrators or *anyone* who needs information can contact the center for information or referral.

The students working at the Northeast Regional Student Service Center are : Heidi Hayman, Coordinator, a junior at Georgetown High School, Peggy Mahoney, also a junior at Georgetown, Andrea Grune a senior at Andover Hight School, and Irish Soto, a Spanish-speaking student from Lawrence High School.

They answer questions, requests for information, do research on various laws and topics of concern to anyone with regard to education. Their files cover anything from college scholarships to Transcendental Meditation. When a subject is brought up that isn't in the files the students research it and have the answer in case they need it again.

The students also plan workshops for anyone who requests them on anything that they'd like to know more about. They are always open to suggestions and ideas of how to be more effective.

As the student begins to play a larger part in what is offered to him in education, the Student Service Center helps them to receive a greater understanding of their choices. The more a student is aware of the decisions and how they are made, the closer he gets to a cooperation with the administration. The Student Service Center hopes to bridge that gap with greater understanding.

So spread the *word*!!!! The Student Service Center is alive and we'd love to hear from *You*!!!!!!!

M.H.S. Word Search

THE HIDDEN WORDS

ART CLUB
BASEBALL
CHORUS
CLUB
COMPUTATION CLUB
FRENCH CLUB
GERMAN CLUB
GOLF
HONOR SOCIETY
ITALIAN CLUB
PEP CLUB
PHOTOGRAPHY
SCIENCE CLUB
SOFTBALL
SPANISH CLUB
TENNIS
TRACK
YEAR BOOK

P	K	O	J	T	C	O	M	P	U	T	A	T	I	O	N	C	L	U	B
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U	T	J	K	S	M	D	T	J	R	J	W	N	L	A	K	A	F	D	O

Academic Internship

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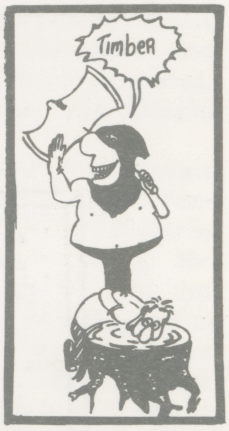
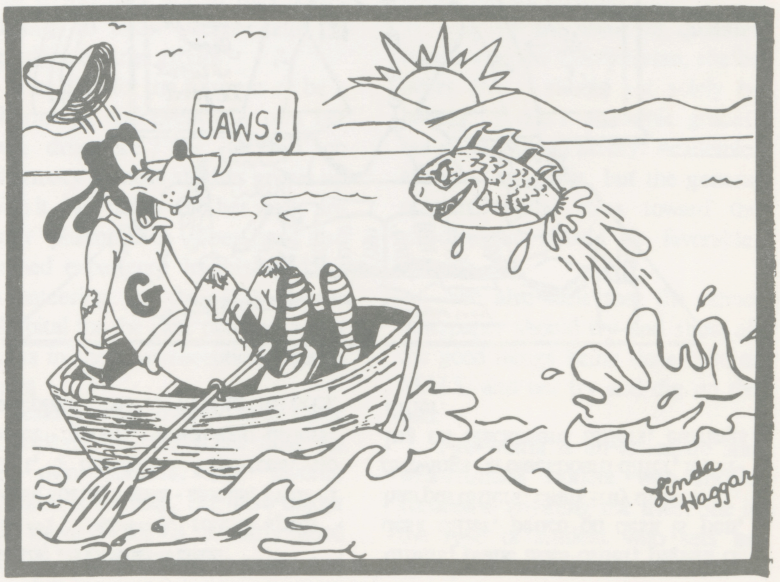
Mr. Salmonson stated that the program is fairly popular in other schools also. It is basically geared around seniors because they are usually more aware of their career choices, but Mr. Salmonson began taking sophomore applicants just this year (for next year).





SPORTS

Track Has Best Season Ever

by Mark Labrecque

This year the track team achieved its best season ever with a 10-0 record. Coach Klimas feels that the win over Andover was definitely their biggest victory, especially since the team had never beaten Andover indoors before. Coach Klimas said that this is what the team has been striving for since last year.

The main improvement this year is that there is more depth to the team. This is something the team didn't have enough of last year.

As for the competition, Coach Klimas feels that only two teams (Chelmsford and Andover) are at Methuen's athletic level. Teams have up and down cycles, and right now Methuen is on an upward swing.

Even though the team will be without a fine senior group, Coach Klimas feels the team has many strong points in its junior and sophomore members such as Kevin Tarr, Dave Deneu, Gary Wells, Steve Ventre, Chuck Hillard, Rick Pepin, Dave Kazanjian, and Dave Deschane. With this strong foundation, the team will find itself weak in only two areas--the shot put and high jump.

"Leadership is the key," stated Coach Klimas, and he feels that the team has it in Rick Cameron and Jim Ventre, who have done an outstanding job. He added that Frank Riley has also had a fine competitive season.

Looking back at the team's performance, Coach Klimas believes that everyone has done an excellent job. Though sophomores Mike Deschane, anchor leg in the two-mile relay, Chuck Hillard, whose time was 2:04, and Dave Deneu in the hurdles, are the individuals he feels have improved most since last year and over the past season.

"I'm very happy with how we've progressed," said Coach Klimas. Appropriately so, since the team has won its last sixteen straight meets. He feels there is a great young group of up and coming athletes who feel that if you keep on winning, everything's great. The team's future athletes give a bright outlook to the Methuen Track Team of future years.

Hockey Team Impressive

by Steve Castle

The Methuen Ranger Varsity Ice Hockey team has turned in an impressive season, proving its worth as a contender in the MVC.

The team started out poorly, losing four out of its five contests. The Rangers continued along this frustrating course until a 3-3 tie with second-place Chelmsford sparked the team into better play.

The team continued to post impressive victories in the latter half of the season. One of the more outstanding examples of Methuen's ability came in a 12-1 bombing of the Lawrence Lancers, in which Ranger captain Mike Hovnanian had four goals.

Thanks to efforts of players like Mike Hovnanian, Ed Nutter, and Bud Haney, the Ranger Ice Hockey team has turned what looked like a frustrating season into a fine year.

Gymnasts Have Outstanding Season

by Debbie DeJonker
Diane Brooks

Both the boys' and girls' gymnastic teams have had outstanding seasons this year.

The girls' team has won its second consecutive Merrimack Valley League Championship. The boys did quite well also; they finished with a 6-3 overall record.

According to the girls' coach, Mrs. Karen Bergeron, her team's overall success this season was due to depth. Depth, to Mrs. Bergeron, is the team's reliance upon the upperclassmen, the freshmen, and the sophomores. Mrs. Bergeron said, "It is helpful to increase depth because you can't rely upon one or two people, and we are having a strong season this year because of it."

Mr. Molesso feels that the boys have a team effort. He said, "We have a lot of spirit, a lot of companionship; that's why we do so well."

There aren't any senior girls and only three senior boys on the two teams; however, there is an abundance of freshmen, sophomores, and juniors.

Some outstanding girl gymnasts are Ann Marie Guilmette, Brenda Contarino, Debbie Hersh and Chris Bergeron.

Chris Bergeron has made the states, and she will compete in both individual and all around competition in all four events.

The Glove All-Stars have been

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Gymnasts

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chosen: Chris Bergeron will compete in all four events, Ann Marie Guilmette in vaulting, Debbie Hersh on the balance beam, and Brenda Contarino on the uneven parallel bars.

From the boys Marty Mason and Tony Masucci have qualified for the states; they will compete in vaulting.

Five boys missed qualifying for the states by a very narrow margin. Both Steve Hailson and Ron Hibbard missed by a fraction of a point.

On March 4, the Second Annual Gymnastics Exhibition will be held in the Methuen High Field House. Like last year, both teams will perform; and two favorite events will be presented--tiger leaping, and the antics of clowns.

All concerned are hoping to see a big turnout from the fans to watch the boys' and girls' teams in action.

Rock Poll '78 - Results

Best Group:	Aerosmith
Best New Group:	Foreigner
Male Vocalist:	Barry Manilow
Female Vocalist:	Linda Ronstadt
Best Singles:	1. We Are the Champions - Queen
	2. Jet Airliner - Steve Miller Band
	3. Feels Like the First Time - Foreigner
	4. Staying Alive - Bee Gees
	5. Swingtown - Steve Miller Band
Best Albums:	1. News of the World - Queen
	2. Hotel California - Eagles
	3. Boston - Boston
	4. Book of Dreams - Steve Miller Band
	5. Draw the Line - Aerosmith
Best Concert:	Jethro Tull
Worst Group:	Sex Pistols
Worst Singles:	1. Da Doo Ron Ron - Shaun Cassidy
	2. You Light Up My Life - Debby Boone
	3. Evergreen - Barbara Streisand
Worst Album:	1. Star Wars - Meco
	2. You Light Up My Life - Movie Soundtrack
	3. Shaun Cassidy - Shaun Cassidy

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